

Official News-Letter of the FOUNDERS' Younger Boys' Camp

The American Youth Foundation, 520 N. Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo.

Volume 2  
Number 2

April  
1932

HELLO FELLOWS.....HOW ARE YOU ALL?

Well, it won't be long now. How do I know? Well, I'll tell you. Just about the sixth day of April every year, the Gumpert man rambles into my office. It is such a regular performance that when I see him I feel like singing that old song "Do you know the muffin man".....you remember?.....only in this case it would be "Do you know the Gumpert man?"

WELL, THE GUMPERT MAN

is the fellow who sells us those tempting punch drinks, the hot chocolate and all that. True to form, the Gumpert man showed up on Wednesday, April 6, and by golly fellows, the order has now been placed for the punches, and puddings, and hot drinks, so you can see, when that time comes, CAMP DAYS CANNOT BE VERY FAR AWAY.

I'D HATE TO TELL YOU



how much of everything I ordered, but I will let you in on this much - the initial order for hot chocolate amounted to more than a quarter of a ton. Man alive! think of it, a quarter of a ton of hot chocolate, and that is just the first order. And when that is made into liquid why I almost believe we would have enough hot chocolate to fill

up the west end of Stony Lake.

AND IT'S DOUBLE RICH HOT CHOCOLATE THIS YEAR

That's the label on the packages "DOUBLE RICH" and I'm here to tell you that that means just that - "DOUBLE RICH." If you liked the hot chocolate last year, will you like it this year.....are you telling me?

AND YOU KNOW, THAT SALESMAN TRIED TO SELL ME

some flapjack flour in one pound packages. "Why man alive" sez I, "Man alive, when we make up flapjack batter we make it up gallons at a time. Why you just



ought to see those fellows eat flapjacks when they are off on one of their overnight hikes down along the beach of Lake Michigan. Why, I've seen Sid Wortmann eat.....well, that would be telling. At any rate, "Mister" sez I, "we can't buy those teeny weenie pound packages for our outfit, no sir, we buy that stuff by the barrel and then some."

#### BY THE WAY

you ought to see the broad beach that we have this year on Lake Michigan. I suspect the water has gone down a bit, or something like that.....Maybe Bobbie Wilson and Dick Jones, Joe Cahill, George Norton, George Orrdorff and Johnnie Geringer all took a couple extra baths this winter.....At any rate, the water is lower and that means a broader beach, and boy, it's as clean and level as a barn floor.

#### REMEMBER THE SURF BATHING



we had last summer? The Atlantic Ocean had nothing on Lake Michigan. We sure are mighty lucky to have so much frontage on Lake Michigan, to say nothing of Stony Lake and Stony Creek. I sorta feel sorry for those boys who go to camps that are located only on small streams and inland lakes. "Battling the surf" and "breasting the breakers" are sports that they know nothing about. We have ordered some nice big breakers for this summer, so get your wind in good condition to "stand the gaff" right from the start of camp.

#### AND SPEAKING OF FLAPJACKS ..

I'll never forget that morning on the beach where we spent the night on that second "overnight." I told the chef to mix up "oodles" of flapjack batter and to make it good. And did he do it? Man alive, I can see "Popeye" right now turning out those flapjacks as fast as he could make 'em, and the line kept coming and coming AND COMING, and every fellow had as many flaps as he could eat.

#### AND NEARLY A HALF CASE OF EGGS

were consumed by the hungry crowd, to say nothing of bacon, hot chocolate, and the case of big black cherries. And then came the fun of building "dams" to dam up the numerous springs that flowed out of the steep dunes on the beach. Everybody voted that hike just about the best, although the trip to Little Pointe Sable lighthouse, with the ramble over the "desert dunes" and the trip through the lighthouse, was one that no camper wanted to miss.

#### WELL NOW, WE'RE HEADING IN FAST

and almost before we know it, we'll be tumbling out of the big "Greyhound" bus at Stony Lake, greeting the other fellows who have been driven in by their dads or mothers. It's great to renew old friendships and to look forward to four or seven weeks of camping at its best with our old camp buddies. Advance information on registration gives you the assurance that you will be seeing most of your old camp pals back at Miniwanca again this summer. And the thing that I

like is the fact that you are all hard at work lining up a buddie or two from among your home friends to bring with you to camp. Dan Compton writes from Scarsdale, New York, that he is getting a line on a fellow to bring along with him. Dick Jones is working on a couple of fellows that he hopes to sign up. Jim Rollin, in his business like way, said to me the other evening, "Well, I think I have a fellow just about ready to sign up for camp -- now what do I do next?" Homer LaBarr, Dave and Jim Orwig are cultivating a bunch of fellows from John Burroughs School in St. Louis. Bill Fraser just slipped us the word that he has a fellow lined up. Joe Edwards is hot on the trail of a couple of fellows in his church. Bob Mueller and George Gruenewald are on the job with some good prospects that they are working up to the "dotted line." "Heavy" Wortmann handed me a slip of paper not long ago with the names of some fine prospects. Steve Zetterberg's registration is in, and Ed Cherbonnier, we have just learned, will be back. We're hoping "Bake" Atwood and a couple more fine fellows from Country Day School will come along with him.



### THE WHOLE BUNCH OF YOU, I KNOW

are at work trying to line up new campers. And that is what makes a good camp -- at least that is one of the big items in a successful camp.....a picked bunch of boys who have been lined up by the old campers and leaders....fellows who are rather tired of the ordinary type of camping and want a purposeful camp like MINIWANCA.



### JUST TO-DAY

there went out from this office a batch of twenty personal letters to a list of twenty younger boy camp prospects and their parents, who had been personally recommended by old Miniwanca campers.

### WE WILL DO THIS FOR YOU ALSO,

if you will make up a list of fine type boys and give us their names and addresses and state their age, and also give us their fathers' initials, we will write a "personal" letter to each boy and another letter to his dad, and we will send them both literature of the camp.

### AND IF THE BOY REGISTERS AND COMES TO CAMP,

you will get your ten or fifteen dollar cash credit on your own camp fee. Now that is making money so easily that every "man jack" of you will want to send in a good list of names, if you have not already done so.

### YOU WILL WANT TO ATTEND TO THIS RIGHT AWAY

if you want to get results. Talk this over with your parents and make up your list as soon as you have finished reading this copy of The Trail. Now let's see who are the PROCRASTINATORS in the Younger Boys' Camp bunch. Or rather, let's see who are the GO-GETTERS. Dad and mother can help you a lot with this. I heard the other day of a certain mother who had lined up eleven campers for a certain girls' camp, because she wanted to share with other parents the value



that she felt her own daughter had obtained from that camp. Perhaps dad may know of a business associate who has a boy of camp age, and a word from him to the other boy's dad would probably result in a registration and of course, the BIG BONUS of ten or fifteen dollars for you.



#### BE A GOOD SALESMAN

and help dad and mother pay for your camp trip by piling up your CASH BONUS money. But you must be a real salesman and dig up the business, and that won't be hard for a bunch of fellows who are Founder fellows and who know how much more Miniwanca has to offer than other camps.

#### IN YOUR TOWN AND AMONG YOUR ACQUAINTANCES

there are undoubtedly many boys who formerly went to high priced camps, with an expensive camping equipment to buy, and all that, and this year they are not going back to that particular camp because of the high cost. That gives you an unusual opportunity to tell them of Miniwanca - the wonderful trip to Chicago - if you swing up to camp from the south or west - the trip across the lake - and the glories of Miniwanca - all at moderate cost. GO AFTER THAT BUNCH BUT PICK OUT ONLY THE BEST FELLOWS. KEEP UP THE STANDARD. WE DO NOT WANT ANY DUDS AT MINIWANCA.

#### SOME MORE CAMP BOOKLETS

are being sent you to-day. Use every one of them. Also some camp registration cards. When you go to a boy's home to talk to him and his dad or mother about camp, take one of the booklets with you and a registration card and also a copy of the new

#### "GUIDE TO THE SELECTION OF A CAMP"

several copies of which are coming to you with the other booklets. It is a strange statement to make, but it is a fact that most parents do not know enough about the camping situation to enable them to make a constructive choice of a summer camp for their sons or daughters.

#### SO, WE HAVE PREPARED A BOOK OF PRINCIPLES

for the guidance of parents. Your father and mother will enjoy reading this little booklet. If your parents want a few more of them to pass around to their friends, just drop me a line and I will send them to you.

#### WELL NOW, THAT IS A LOT OF PROMOTION TALK

isn't it, and I'll say just one thing more along this line and then we'll hop on to other things. And that one thing is -

#### PLEASE SEND IN YOUR OWN REGISTRATION SOON

Fill in one of the application cards, have your father or mother sign it, and return it to us with the initial \$25.00 of the camp fee. Remember there is a limit set for each camp, and man alive, we'd hate like everything to see an old



camper lose his place because the quota has been filled.

### WELL THAT'S THAT, AND NOW

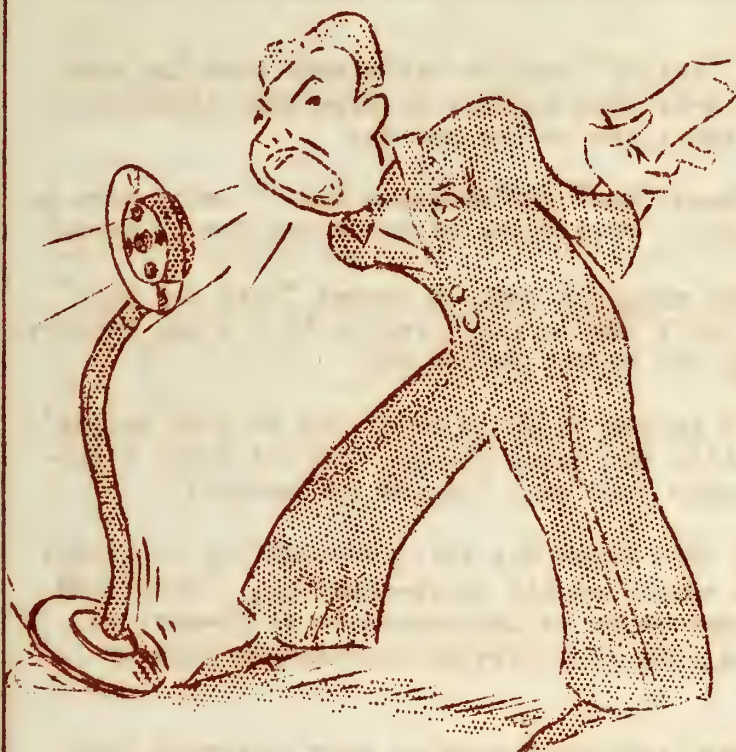
let's see what Director Gus has to say - O. K. Gus - broadcasting from Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois, - O. K....Gus.....

### DIRECTOR GUS GRUENEWALD'S SECTION

#### Big new plans for 1932

They tell us that "the world stands aside for the man who knows where he is going." This is most certainly true; and believe me, the directors of the Younger Boys' Camp seem to know where they are going, on next summer's program.

I wish I could tell you, boys, of the interesting program changes that have been made, but we'll keep these for surprises. However, I do want to let you in on a few major improvements. For one thing, we shall have built a suitable new rustic chapel for our exclusive, sacred use. Work will have begun on this project by the time we arrive in camp, but we shall finish it up as beautifully as we can, during our project periods.



And what a great time we'll have down on the water front, because a whole fleet of new boats have been ordered - just waiting for us to break them in!

Undoubtedly you'll like the new arrangement of the tent areas, and "Lauretta the nurse" will have her own special dispensary tent this year. The store will also be better equipped.

Each year brings a few new faces on the leadership staff, and you won't be able to do otherwise than like the men who will be our leaders this year. Of course, most of the "old timers" will be there, as anxious as ever to "play the game" with you.

One of the items we're still working on, is a new method of distinguishing the competitive groups. Some of the boys have offered suggestions, to take the place of the wrist bands. Perhaps you have a brand new idea that suits you and might please the rest of us, too. Just write Wadjepe a little note and explain how you would tell the difference between the Sands, Creeks, Beeches and Breakers.

Just before camp begins, we hope to have a lot of more good news concerning this summer's line-up, so in the meantime we can just keep anticipating these new items.



"RECOLLECTIONS"

"Happy days are here again" for the birds are heard chirping and the buds are seen sprouting. It doesn't take many of these warm spring days to make us just itch for the delightful wooded sand dunes of Michigan.

I had a dream the other night, and I can't for the life of me remember all the joyous happenings of camp that came out of my subconscious mind, but I recall a few.

Remember how our friends "Speed" and "Shelby" and Joe would come rambling over the hill for set-ups? But it didn't take long for Rex to have them limbered up, and Mr. Stony Lake would make them alive to the new day.

And then it was surprising how few times "Red" or "Wortmann No. 1" would have to be hustled over the trail to breakfast. "Pass those biscuits and jam, please."

But I also remembered those one or two mornings when it poured "cats and dogs" just at rising-bell time. But rain can't stop a busy program in a sandy country, and so we all had a great time riding the truck, didn't we?

And then it seemed that big breakfast pepped us up so much that we just couldn't wait to clean up our tents. I can still see Dave, Shelby, Jim and Frank cleaning up around "A" - and it was no wonder that they "copped the honors."

At crafts and archery hour it seemed that Steve was still hitting the bulls-eye most of the time and Jim Rollin also continued his sharp-shooting. "Bake" and Bruce and Ed and Newell and Dick seemed to be as interested in craft-work as ever. Of course, "Bugs", George, and J.D. were forever questioning Chan on nature lore.

Ideals class seemed livelier than ever, and there were so many responses that it was a pleasure to lead the discussion.



At swimming period I could see very clearly the life boats being shoved off and there were Joe, John, Red and Ed taking their turns as the Junior Life Saving Corps. On the diving-board I saw Pete, Dave, Shelby, Jim, Bobby and Billy all "doing their stuff."

And then I thought for a minute I had a stomach ache but it was only because I was dreaming about all the candy bars Don Burger ate during the camp period. But during rest hour, I could see Louie, Jim, the Wortmanns and almost everybody writing a letter home and it did my heart good. When it came to project hour, there were Homer, Sidney, Louis, John and the whole crew, on the tree-house job, going at it for all they were worth.

There were many fast contests played in volley-ball and indoor ball, but the camper-leader game stood out in my mind - and I don't think I shall ever forget that hot contest.



Just before I awoke, I recalled the many campfire diversions, the night games (at which Bob Wortmann played too hard) the picturesque masquerade, the beach suppers, the night swims with their "popcorn feeds" afterwards, the moonlight hikes up "Old Baldy", and while taking the hayrack ride, I fell off going down a little hill, and the bump woke me up.



And I'll be glad "when my dreams all come true" because I want to be going "down those long, long trails with you" this summer again.

#### A WORD TO PARENTS

I often recall vividly and with a great deal of pleasure, the inspiring days of rugged outdoor camp-life I spent as a real young boy. As we leaders plan for the 1932 Younger Boys' Camp, I'm sure that the dominant idea in our minds is to provide a program comparable to the one we received, plus all we've learned since.

The American Youth Foundation provides a unique recreational-instructional camp for younger boys. We have all the fun that goes with a happy, purposeful vacation, but also a proper balancing of cultural activities.

Even in these days, we cannot belittle the vital importance of sending our boys to a good camp, in a salubrious region, where the water and drainage are of the best, and the physical, mental and moral equipment of the highest. Character building in boys contributes to both present and future generations - yes, to our national life.

Some of us are quite sure that a summer camp, properly equipped and directed, is the most effective of schools. I'm sure you will want your boy to continue his education this summer!

Faithfully yours,

Gus A. Gruenewald

#### WADJEPI SAYS

"I can hardly wait to see my younger boy camp buddies again. Seventy more days and we'll be whooping it up at Stony Lake! Old Baldy has smoothed down his sides and is all ready for the hurtling hordes that scamper down his rugged slopes. Lake Michigan will have her waters nice and warm and billowy, and Stony Creek will welcome you again to her swift flowing current.

The chef is all set to feed you up, and fatten you up, and this year we're going to do it, I'll tell you. The leadership squad is rounding up in great shape and will be finer than ever - many old timers will be back, and the program will be much improved over last year.

I am counting on every one of you to return to camp. I am going to be with you much more this year than last. So let's make this third year the best of all - Get your registration in soon. If you knew what a kick I get out of seeing your registration actually on file, you would have your application in the day after you read this message. More later. I'll be seeing some of you soon."



## A LINE O' NEWS -

- Whoopee - camp time soon here!
- Saw Johnnie Hermann recently in St. Paul.
- Yes, you may register girls for the Younger Girls' Camp.
- Yes, you get the same cash bonus for such registration.
- A new tent row this year - platforms already moved - you'll like it.
- Going to build a barbecue in the Younger Boys' Camp
- And a barbecue means - well, whadda you think it means?
- Hey Bugs, move back a bit from that roastin' pig - give him air!
- A rustic chapel in the woods - in the boys' camp - sounds good, eh what?
- Those new boats sure will look good.
- Kinji and I were at Miniwanca in January - everything looks fine.
- The character monument stands like the Rock of Gibraltar
- And it should, for it was carefully built, and every stone has a meaning.
- Going to make up our own arrows, right in camp, this year.
- You'll probably want to get started early this year, making your own bow.
- Still a chance to get in that Camp Savings Club
- And if you do, and your camp fee is all paid in by June 15th -
- Listen, and get this straight - you will be given a Ten Dollar rebate
- On your camp fee. Now if those Ten Dollars mean anything to you
- Go get them - BUT you must actually register and enter that Savings Club
- N O W !
- Now let's check up on the things you are asked to do -
- One - Register yourself.
- Two - Send in a list of prospects and their parents' names and addresses.
- Three - Send in suggestions for a new emblem for the four groups in camp.

---

### AND NOW A FINAL MESSAGE FROM KINJI

Ho kola!

Greetings younger boy campers!

This message comes to you from the field. I am on a big, six weeks camp promotion trip through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and the New England states.

Everywhere I go, I find an increasing interest in the Founder Camps. It wouldn't surprise me at all if we had several younger boy campers this year from Eastern states, to keep Dan Compton and Don Burger company.

I am arranging my schedule so that I will be right there at the top of the hill at the Clubhouse to greet you, one and all, when you tumble into camp the morning of June 22. This is to be a great Founder Camp year, and I am counting on every one of you to set high standards in camp this summer.

So come along, you happy campers with your wholesome exuberance. Come and camp with us again in the "Camp of Golden Splendors" where you learn how to play the game of life according to the "Jesus way", and we'll make this the best camp we have ever had.

Yours till I see you at camp,

Kinji-gissis